

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1860
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AMEMBASSY MADRID

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, AR
SUBJECT: PERON SACKS GALIMBERTI

REF: BA-2941

1. SUMMARY: MODERATES WITHIN PERONIST MOVEMENT SCORE MAJOR VICTORY. RADICAL YOUTH LEADER RODOLFO GALIMBERTI HAS BEEN OUSTED BY PERON. FATE OF MOVEMENT SECGEN JUAN ABAL MEDINA NOT YET CLEAR BUT IT APPEARS THAT HE TOO MAY HAVE BEEN OUSTED. AT VERY LEAST HE HAS RECEIVED SEVERE REPRIMAND FROM PERON.
END SUMMARY.

2. PERONIST SOURCES CALLED YESTERDAY TO INFORM US THAT ORIGINAL REPORTS FROM MADRID (SEE REFTEL) HAD BEEN BORNE OUT. ACCORDING TO WORD THEY HAD JUST RECEIVED FROM MADRID, DURING MEETINGS OVER THE WEEK END PERON HAD SHARPLY REPRIMANDED AND ASKED FOR RESIGNATIONS OF BOTH GALIMBERTI AND ABAL MEDINA. GALIMBERTI'S RESIGNATION WAS IMMEDIATELY OFFERED AND ACCEPTED. HE IS FINISHED AS YOUTH LEADER WITHIN THE MOVEMENT. SITUATION WITH ABAL MEDINA IS LESS CERTAIN. SOURCES WERE NOT CERTAIN
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WHETHER HIS RESIGNATION HAD BEEN OR WOULD BE ACCEPTED. PRESS

THIS MORNING DOES NOT CLARIFY SITUATION. PERON'S PERSONAL SECRETARY, LOPEZ REGA, IS QUOTED AS CONFIRMING FACT THAT GALIMBERTI'S RESIGNATION ACCEPTED, BUT HE SAID NOTHING OF ABAL MEDINA'S. WHATEVER THE CASE, IT IS CLEAR THAT ABAL MEDINA'S POSITION WITHIN THE MOVEMENT HAS BEEN WEAKENED CONSIDERABLY.

3. PRESS THIS MORNING, IN COVERING GALIMBERTI DISMISSAL, REPORTS PERON TO HAVE SAID IDEA OF ORGANIZING MILITIA WAS COMPLETELY UNAUTHORIZED AND REPRESENTED GRATUITOUS PROVOCATION. ARGENTINA NEEDS PACIFICATION AND NATIONAL UNITY, NOT MORE PROVOCATIONS, HE ALLEGED TO HAVE COMMENTED.

4. PRESS ALSO REPORTS MEETING OF VARIOUS ELEMENTS PERONIST YOUTH HELD IN B. A. YESTERDAY. "REVOLUTIONARY TENDENCY" (I. E. OF GALIMBERTI) WAS CRITICIZED AS EXAMPLE OF DIVISIVE SECTARIANISM. WHEN ASKED BY NEWSMEN IF CRITICISM WAS AIMED AT GALIMBERTI, YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES REPLIED, "PERON HAS ALREADY ANSWERED YOUR QUESTION."

5. COMMENT: MODERATE PERONISTS ARE JUBILANT OVER GALIMBERTI'S POLITICAL DEMISE. OUSTER WILL DOUBTLESS BE REASSURING ALSO TO OTHER PARTIES (ESPECIALLY TO UCR) AND TO MILITARY. WHETHER GALIMBERTI AND HIS HARD-LINE FOLLOWERS WILL MEEKLY ACCEPT HIS RESIGNATION, OR WHETHER THEY WILL MOVE TO PURSUE THEIR RADICAL LINE OUTSIDE THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PERONIST MOVEMENT REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

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